

Amendments to the Claims

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A method of treating a respiratory distress syndrome in a mammal, comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of an agent comprising ~~an intracellular calcium chelator that activates surfactant secretion without increasing the cytosolic free calcium concentration $[Ca^{+2}]_i$ in said mammal~~ BAPTA-AM.

Claim 2 (Cancelled).

Claim 3 (Cancelled).

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): The method of Claim ~~[[3]]~~ 1, wherein the amount of BAPTA-AM is between 25 and 100 μ M.

Claim 5 (Cancelled).

Claim 6 (Cancelled).

Claim 7 (Original): The method of Claim 1, wherein said agent is administered by an aerosol, nebulization or liquid instillation.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): A method of inhibiting a respiratory distress syndrome in a mammal, comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of an agent comprising ~~an intracellular calcium chelator that activates surfactant secretion without increasing the cytosolic free calcium concentration $[Ca^{+2}]_i$ in said mammal~~ BAPTA-AM.

Claim 9 (Cancelled).

Claim 10 (Cancelled).

Claim 11 (Currently Amended): The method of Claim [[10]] 8, wherein the amount of BAPTA-AM is between 25 and 100 μM .

Claim 12 (Cancelled).

Claim 13 (Cancelled).

Claim 14 (Original): The method of Claim 8, wherein said agent is administered by an aerosol, nebulization or liquid instillation.